

## NEWSLETTER

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

Volume 15 Number 1

January / February 2000

## LIBRARY LEGISLATION FOR THE 2000 SESSION

Once again the General Assembly of Kentucky is in session, and once again its members will have an opportunity to provide assistance to public libraries all across the Commonwealth. Two major funding initiatives are being promoted by the Public Library Section (PLS) of the Kentucky Library Association (KLA): a \$2,000,000 increase in major construction grants; and a \$10,000,000 increase in State Aid. Both would be administered by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA).

Currently KDLA has \$600,000 set aside for major construction grants to help local libraries build new facilities, add extensions, and/or complete major renovations. These are on a dollar-for-dollar match up to a maximum \$350,000 grant. A recent survey of 155 of the state's library facilities revealed a significant need for improvements—from totally new, larger buildings to rewiring for technology to *not* looking like they were designed by Mike Brady!

KDLA provides grants of direct aid to all county libraries, based on a formula that adds 73¢ per capita on top of a sliding-scale base amount. Legislation to be introduced this ses-

sion will completely rework the old formula, replacing it with a new one that is patterned after the Department of Education's SEEK formula for providing aid to public schools. This entire proposal would bring \$10,000,000 additional funds to the State Aid grants. If you don't already know exactly how many dollars this would bring to *your* library, contact your regional librarian for that amount.



State Aid is a very flexible grant. It can be used for just about any library purpose—from purchasing books and other library materials to staff training and compensation to building maintenance, to name a few. Another plus factor for many libraries is the timing of this grant, usually received in October when the library's coffers are reaching a low point.

As of this writing neither initiative has been introduced and assigned a bill number. The PLS Legislative Committee has a process in place to alert library directors once this happens. They and their paid legislative agent (lobbyist) will continually track both bills as they move through the legislative process and keep libraries informed and advised on how to support these.



## A BETTER MOUSETRAP?

The story first appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*. On Christmas Day *The Courier-Journal* picked it up from the AP service and re-printed it. All over libraryland it was being discussed. What created all this attention? Yet another way (hope springs eternal) to get back overdue library books!

In Jeffersonville, Indiana, right across the river from Louisville, is the only collection agency in the country that deals exclusively with overdue library materials and uncollected fines. Unique Management Services Inc, hires its staff primarily from our side of the river, from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary student body. Their approach is gentle but firm. There are no threats of broken kneecaps or sleeping with the fishes, just a "gentle nudge" to get procrastinators moving. After all, libraries want repeat customers and too aggressive collection tactics could alienate current and potential users.

Focusing on libraries since 1994, Unique's owners Lyle Stucki and Charlie Gary believe their third-party status offers libraries added credibility and clout. Citing a philosophy that most library abusers aren't really thieves, but just well-meaning folks that take way too long to return materials and don't feel very guilty about it, Stucki and Gary have grown a successful business. Libraries have turned over more than 500,000 accounts to them since 1994. Staffers send out approximately 75,000 letters and make 32,000 phone calls a month. Last year, the company recorded \$2 million in revenue and collected more than \$10 million in money and materials. Unique gets about 60% of the people it contacts to return items and pay fines. The average user owes \$65.

*Disclaimer: The above is a news item for your information and does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by KDLA.*

## TOP 10 EXCUSES

The following are actual excuses given to staff at Unique Management Services Inc as they attempted to get library customers to return overdue books and materials.

10. "I lost them in the divorce. Call my ex."
9. "My husband is doing time."
8. "I've got too many to carry."
7. "I hurt my arm."
6. "I don't know where the library is."
5. "I was on the way to return them, but the police impounded my car."
4. "They were in the back seat of the car, and my husband sold it."
3. "We just found them behind the couch."  
*(after four years)*
2. "I threw them away."
1. "I haven't had time." *(from a librarian)*



**Kentucky Public Library Newsletter** is published bi-monthly by Field Services Division of Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and your regional librarian. Correspondence should be addressed to the editor, Nelda Moore, KDLA/Lincoln Trail Regional Office, 201 West Dixie Avenue, Elizabethtown, 42701-1533. Phone 270.766.5222; Fax 270.766.5223; e-mail: [Nelda.Moore@kdla.net](mailto:Nelda.Moore@kdla.net).

*Serving Kentucky's Need to Know*



An agency of the Education, Arts & Humanities Cabinet



# KDLA'S SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During Governor Patton's first term, the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives made many significant accomplishments. Among them are these:

- Through efforts of KDLA, 117 county public libraries connected to the Information Superhighway as part of Governor Patton's EMPOWER Kentucky project. And 118 (100%) of county libraries expanded services as a result of a KDLA grant proposal to the Gates Library Initiative.
- Access to OCLC FirstSearch, a user-friendly web based system of electronic databases, was provided to 155 Kentucky Library Network (KLN) member libraries. This KDLA-administered program included access to full text periodical articles and a direct link to the OCLC Interlibrary Loan System until FY 2000. At this point, the Kentucky Commonwealth Virtual Library (KCVL) accepted responsibility for ILL.
- KDLA worked in tandem with the Kentucky library community to implement the KCVL and KCVU. Over 300 students have taken online library science classes.
- Over 90% of Kentucky public libraries applied for the second year of the Federal E-Rate telecommunications discounts. In the first year, Kentucky libraries received \$1,070,365.41 in discounts.
- KDLA created a web site in 1996. Since then there have been over 3.1 million visits.
- There was a 43% increase in children enrolled in the statewide Summer Reading Program. In 1999, 72,621 children participated in 90% of our public libraries.
- An additional \$200,000 per year was added to the bookmobile/outreach vehicle replacement program, increasing the average number of vehicles purchased each year from two to ten.



- The Kentucky Talking Book Library served an average of 3,630 patrons each year with a four-year total of 690,908 books circulated.
- As part of KDLA's expanding e-commerce for its public, the "AskLib" campaign was initiated, allowing users to ask reference questions on a form on the home page.
- KDLA was named KLN Cataloguing Agent to OCLC. Between 1996 and 1999, 1,100,234 records were tapeloaded to OCLC and 69,202 records were added to the Kentucky database for sharing purposes.
- KDLA's Public Records Division mounted two archival catalogues on the web and served tens of thousands of research visitors on-site and web site.
- The Public Records Division has micro-filmed 37,463,735 images since 1995.
- KDLA is having a positive impact on the transition to automation in local government offices through consulting and local records grants.
- KDLA provided ongoing assistance to the Pendleton County Public Library after it was virtually destroyed by a flood in 1997. KDLA staff assisted with the clean up and conservation, as well as providing construction funds to rebuild the facility.
- KDLA's Public Records Division also coordinated recovery efforts and provided some financial assistance for records damaged by the 1997 flood in Harrison and Pendleton County Clerks' offices.



## KLA LISTSERV

For the latest Kentucky Library Association news and quick access to fellow members, sign up for the KLA Listserv. Send a message to <listerv@lsv.uky.edu>. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message type: subscribe kla-list FirstName LastName.

## TECHNICAL SERVICES NEWS

The technical services department at KDLA is always pleased to get cataloguing questions from libraries. To assist further with those little "oddities" that arise, the *Kentucky Public Library Newsletter* will feature cataloguing tips on a regular basis. To make the information all the more valuable, real questions from real librarians are solicited. Write, call, or e-mail Myra Prewitt at: Box 537, Frankfort, 40602; 502.564.8300, ext 227; Myra.Prewitt@kdla.net.

**Tip:** As we all know, the Web is a great place to make travel plans, buy books, and trade stocks. Did you know that the Web is also a place to find cataloguing help? Library of Congress cataloguing can be found on the Web at <<http://catalog.loc.gov>>. This site takes you to the Library of Congress online catalogue. There you can choose to look at the MARC records, or do a keyword search. The most important thing to remember about this site is that it *only* contains records that the Library of Congress has worked on.

The next couple of columns will contain more useful URLs that can help you to catalogue your library's resources. Remember, we at KDLA are always glad to answer any questions you might have. Give us a call!

Happy cataloguing from Myra Prewitt!

## PLANNING FOR EVENTS AHEAD

Don't forget the following special events in library programming, exhibits, displays, reading lists, etc.

*February* = National African-American History Month

*March* = National Women's History Month  
Irish-American Heritage Month

And other dates to remember include:

*January 31* = Annual Summations for Certification Renewal are due to the local KDLA Regional Office

*February* = OSHA 200 list of occupational injuries and illnesses must be posted

*March 7-9* = Summer Reading Program Workshops @ Kentucky History Center in Frankfort

## KDLA WINS EEO AWARD

At the Governor's 13<sup>th</sup> EEO Conference KDLA was granted the Gubernatorial Award for Achievement for having met or surpassed the affirmative action percentage goals for minorities and females.

## POKEMON AT LIBRARY

The current craze for all things Pokemon is motivating kids to read more at the Kansas City Public Library. Youth Services staff have started holding weekly drawings for a free Pokemon book to encourage young patrons to read. Kids 17 and under may enter the drawing each time they check out five or more books.



## 'CROSS THE COMMONWEALTH



All across the Commonwealth public libraries and librarians are doing remarkable things that deserve the recognition of their colleagues. This column attempts to highlight some of these. Requests for additional items are continually solicited.

Kentucky Book Fair grants of \$3,500 were awarded to: **Hickman County P L**, **Trigg County P L**, and **Menifee County P L**.

**Menifee County P L** also received a donation of 100 books from the Brownstone Fund of New York and 52 books from the McConnell Center at UK.

The City-County (London-Laurel) Industrial Development Authority has donated 1.85 acres of land to the **Laurel County P L** for construction of a new library.

**Pat Hopkins**, Children's Librarian at the **Bell County P L** (Middlesboro) has developed "babysitter kits" (also known as "grandparent kits") for use by library cardholders. These kits are a canvas bag filled with books for toddlers and young children, a video and/or audio, puppets, activity sheets, and other items related to a theme.

The Newbery Club, at the Middlesboro location of the **Bell County P L**, is for students in grades 4-8. Registered participants receive a paperback copy of a Newbery Award winning book and each month the book is discussed.

The **Paul Sawyier P L** (Franklin County) has opened a special area for teenagers. This small but lively space is furnished with a

retro look that even includes a lava lamp. Books and magazines are displayed face out whenever possible and the collection is heavily paperback. **Beth Blackburn** was responsible for developing this space.

Classes on using Microsoft Publisher have been offered at the **Pike County P L**. Using the Gates computers, patrons were taught how to use Publisher to make personalized Christmas cards.

**Pam Federspiel**, director of the **Shelby County P L** has been asked by Shelbyville Mayor David Eaton to serve on the Sister City Committee. Shelbyville's sister city is Bitburg, Germany, and Pam plans to partner with their library.

**Ramona Ginn**, Children's Librarian at the **Trimble County P L**, has been nominated for the 1999 Governor's Awards in the Arts for her incorporation of art instruction into the Summer Reading Program for ages 6-12, and the library sponsored art exhibit for K-5. These efforts were directly responsible for PTO/PTA funding for art programs in two elementary schools previously without such funding.

The **Louisville Free Public Library** held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Staff Recognition Event, presenting the following awards:

*Florinne Kammerer Customer Service Award-Branch* to **Ruth Ellen Flint**, Highland-Shelby Park Branch.

*Barbara Pickett Frey Customer Service Award-Main* to **Sara Nan Curnutt**, circulation

*Creativity Award-Branch* to **Katy Grant**, Shawnee

*Inspiration Award* to **Ginnie Hoover**, Main Children's Department

*Teamwork Award* to the **Okolona Branch**

*Director's Special Award* to **Facilities Services** (for their exceptional help with the Fire of 1999).



The Kentucky Commonwealth Virtual Library is providing many wonderful new opportunities for public libraries to increase their access to information. One of the particularly exciting ones is *NoveList*. This leading electronic readers' advisory resource has been too pricey for purchase by most small and medium sized libraries in Kentucky, though many have certainly desired it.

*NoveList* provides enhanced subject access to over 74,000 fiction titles. *NoveList* supports the librarian as he/she supports the readers' process of exploring and discovering new authors and titles. With *NoveList*, both librarian and customer are able to use a favorite author or title as a template to find similar, though new, authors and titles of interest to the reader. By entering a description of the contents of favorite books, the user can access *NoveList's Explore Fiction* section of 1,000 different theme-oriented lists.

# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

All around Kentucky new library buildings and expansions are under construction. **Boone County** has a 35,000 square foot new facility set to open for business in early 2000. **Gallatin County**, currently at 5,000 square feet, is adding 1,800 more and should be finished by the end of March. **Scott County** is building a 28,000+ square foot facility, set to open in June. The **Tates Creek Branch** of the Lexington Public Library has accepted a bid for construction of a 21,600 square foot building to replace the current Landsdowne Branch.

The American Library Association (ALA) and the American Association of Law Librarians (AALL) have collaborated to offer a new copyright education course via e-mail. The Online Copyright Tutorial is free to all ALA and AALL members. This tutorial will run from February 14 through May 5, 2000.

The tutorial is designed for librarians, educators, and researchers. Subscribers need only have an e-mail address to learn the "basics" of copyright at a friendly and instructive pace. Approximately three e-mail messages per week over the ten-week period will be sent. Each message will contain a resources list and lesson addressing a specific copyright concern—fair use, library photocopying, preservation, locating copyright holders, and so on. Messages are brief (2-3 screens of information), interesting, and relevant to the work of libraries.

Kenneth D Crews, PhD, a law professor, librarian, and copyright educator, will host the tutorial. He is an associate professor at Indiana University School of Law and at the Indiana School of Library and Information Science. As associate dean of the Faculties for Copyright Management and director of IU's Copyright Management Center, Dr Crews brings a rich knowledge of copyright and its relationship to teaching and research activities.

To take advantage of this opportunity follow these simple steps:

1. Send an e-mail message to [listproc@ala1.ala.org](mailto:listproc@ala1.ala.org)
2. In the body of the e-mail message type:   
subscribe tutorial yourEmail@address.org  
Your Name
3. Send.



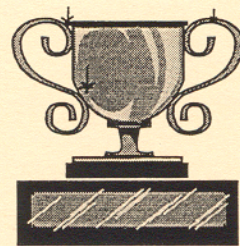
# ALA AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Each year at this time librarians, and especially children's librarians, eagerly await the announcements from ALA about the various award winners. And here they are!

The Newbery Medal, named for the 18<sup>th</sup> century British bookseller John Newbery, is awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children. The 2000 Newbery Medal winner is ***Bud, Not Buddy*** by Christopher Paul Curtis. Honor books were: *Getting Near to Baby* by Audrey Coulombis; *Our Only May Amelia* by Jennifer Holm; and *26 Fairmount Avenue* by Tomie dePaola.

The Caldecott Medal, named in honor of 19<sup>th</sup> century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott, is awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children. The 2000 Caldecott Medal winner is ***Joseph Had a Little Overcoat*** by Simms Taback. Honor books were: *A Child's Calendar* illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman; *Sector 7* by David Wiesner; *When Sophie Gets Angry-Really, Really Angry* by Molly Bang; and *The Ugly Duckling* illustrated by Jerry Pinkney.

The Coretta Scott King Award, honoring African-American authors and illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults, went to Christopher Paul Curtis for ***Bud, Not Buddy*** and Brian Pinkney, illustrator of ***In The Time of the Drums***. Honor books for author were: *Francie* by Karen English; *Black Hands, White Sails: The Story of African-American Whalers* by Patricia and Frederick McKissack; and *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers. Honor books for illustrator were: *My Rows and Piles of Coins* by E B Lewis and *Black Cat* by Christopher Myers.



The Michael L Printz Award, a new award for a book that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature, is named for a Topeka (KS) school librarian who was a long-time active member of the Young Adult Library Services Association. The 2000, and first, award goes to ***Monster*** by Walter Dean Myers. Honor books were: *Hard Love* by Ellen Wittlinger; *Skellig* by David Almond; and *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson.

The Margaret A Edward Award went to Chris Crutcher, honoring a lifetime contribution in writing for teens. A six-time ALA Award winner, Crutcher's novels include *Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes*, *Athletic Shorts*, *Chinese Handcuffs*, *The Crazy Horse Electric Game*, *Stotan!*, and *Running Loose*.

The Pura Belpré Award honors Latino writers and illustrators whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in a children's book. Carmen Lomas Garza is the winner of the illustrator award for ***Magic Windows: Cut-paper Art and Stories***. Alma Flor Ada is the winner for the author's award for ***Under the Royal Palms: A Childhood in Cuba***. Honor books for author were: *From the Bellybutton of the Moon and Other Summer Poems* by Francisco X Alarcón and *Laughing Out Loud, I Fly: Poems in English and Spanish* by Juan Felipe Herrera. Honor books for illustrator were: *Barrio: José's Neighborhood* by George Ancona; *The Secret Stars* illustrated by Felipe Dávalos; and *Mama & Papa Have a Store* illustrated and written by Amelia Lau Carling.



# LIBRARY TRIVIA CORNER

## WHAT ARE LIBRARY DIRECTORS MADE OF?

Not sugar and spice, nor snakes and snails, according to the April 1999 issue of *American Libraries*, which has a letter from Nancy Cummings of Washoe County Library in Reno, NV. She quotes a letter she received from a library colleague 18 years ago:

“I have always maintained that to be a successful library director, the person must be made up of 1% librarian with the remaining 99% spread equally between psychologist, politician, accountant, mother superior, and street fighter. Perhaps you will be able to add a few adjectives to my list.” Shortly thereafter, Nancy writes that she did add two more—attorney and janitor.

**Kentucky Department for Libraries  
and Archives**  
300 Coffee Tree Road  
P O Box 537  
Frankfort, KY 42602-0537

### In This Issue

• Library Legislation For 2000 Session...	1
• A Better Mousetrap	2
• Top 10 Excuses	2
• KDLA's Significant Accomplishments	3
• KLA Listserv	4
• Technical Services News	4
• Planning For Events Ahead	4
• KDLA Wins EEO Award	4
• Pokemon At Library	4
• 'Cross the Commonwealth	5
• KCVL Provides NovelList	6
• Construction Update	6
• Copyright CE Opportunity	6
• ALA Awards Announced	7
• Regional News	Insert